

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, HU, NL

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN REACTION TO DUTCH CRITICISM OF VAN DER STOEL VISIT

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 950, (B) USNATO 1187, (C) BUDAPEST 562 (NOTAL)

1. HUNGARIAN DAILY MAGYAR HIRLAP MARCH 5 CARRIED EDITORIAL HIGHLY CRITICAL OF DUTCH PRESS FOR ALLEGEDLY TRYING TO POSION HOLLAND'S RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY BY PRINTING ARTICLES CHARGING THAT IN THE HAGUE FONMIN VAN DER STOEL'S FEBRUARY VISIT HERE HAD BEEN BADLY RECEIVED.

2. EDITORIAL STARTED OFF BY QUOTING FROM JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO EFFECT THAT VAN DER STOEL WAS ACCORDED "MOST POLITE RECEPTION IN OUR COUNTRY AND HE WAS ABLE TO MEET AND HAVE TALKS WITH THE HIGHEST RANKING LEADERS." EDITORIAL GOES ON TO QUOTE CRITICAL REMARKS IN DUTCH PRESS, INCLUDING
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ONE FROM AGEMEEN DAGBLAD CLAIMING THAT DUTCH MINISTER

"UNEXPECTEDLY COLLIDED WITH ROCK HARD IDEOLOGICAL VIEWS OF HUNGARIANS, WHICH CONSTITUTE OPEN THREATS AGAINST IDEALS OF EAST-WEST DETENTE LAID DOWN IN FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI CONFERENCE."

3. MAGYAR HIRLAP ATTEMPTS TO DISPEL ANY IDEA THAT THERE WERE SHARP DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN DUTCH AND HUNGARIANS, THAT VAN DER STOEL HAD POUNDED TABLE IN ANGER, OR THAT HE HAD DRASTICALLY SHORTENED HIS STAY IN BUDAPEST. MAGYAR HIRLAP CHARGES THAT DUTCH PRESS IS UTILIZING ITS FONMIN'S VISIT TO CARRY OUT IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN; THAT CHARGES AGAINST HUNGARY ARE HOAX "CRUELY FALSIFYING THOSE FACTS FAVORING ANTI-DETENTE PURPOSES."

4. EDITORIAL WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN WRITTEN WITHOUT FIRST RECEIVING FULL APPROVAL OF HIGH PARTY AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

5. COMMENT: FONMIN PUJA DOES OFTEN ATTEMPT TO LECTURE VISITING WESTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS. FOREIGN MINISTERS OF UK AND DENMARK RECEIVED FULL "PUJA TREATMENT" IN 1975 AND WENT HOME DISENCHANGED WITH THEIR VISITS. DUTCH REACTION, HOWEVER, APPEARS TO BE FIRST TIME WESTERN UNHAPPINESS WITH ANY ASPECT OF VISIT TO BUDAPEST HAS SURFACED IN PRESS. DUTCH EMBASSY HERE, HOWEVER, REPORTS THAT VAN DER STOEL WAS SOMEWHAT MOLLIFIED BY DIPLOMATIC AND STATESMANLIKE ATTITUDE OF PARTY FIRST SECRETARY JANOS KADAR WITH WHOM HE MET AFTER HIS "DISCUSSION" WITH PUJA.
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